

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. With this response, original claims 1, 6, and 20-26 have been amended without prejudice or disclaimer; original claims 31-39 have been withdrawn; and, new claims 40-66 have been introduced. The amendments and new claims do not add any new matter and are supported by the application as originally filed. Applicants reserve the right to rejoin or reincorporate any cancelled or otherwise presently unclaimed subject matter in this application as appropriate or to prosecute the same in subsequently filed applications. Consideration and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Change of Correspondence Address

Applicants respectfully request that the Correspondence Address for all future correspondence be changed to the following:

Patrick J. Halloran, Ph.D., J.D.
3141 Muirfield Road
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Restriction Requirement

The Examiner requests the Applicants to elect one of the following groups of claims: Group I (claims 1-30 as to SEQ ID NO:1), Group II (claims 1-30 as to SEQ ID NO:3), Group III (claims 31-35 as to SEQ ID NO:1), Group IV (claims 31-35 as to SEQ ID NO:3), Group V (claim 36), Group VI (claim 37), Group VII (claim 38), and Group VIII (claim 39). Applicants elect with traverse the subject matter of Group I for continued prosecution in this application. The claims of elected Group I include are original claims 1-30 and new claims 40-66.

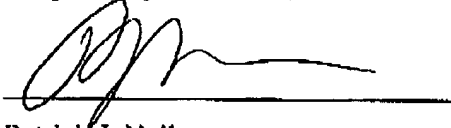
Applicants believe examination of the claims of Groups I, III, V, and VI together would not present an undue burden on the Examiner. Each of the claims of Group I, III, V and VI relate to the BFA4 tumor antigen and a search for art related to one group would overlap a search for art in each of the other groups. As such, Applicants believe the claims of Groups I, III, V and VI should be examined in this application.

The Examiner also requests Applicants to select a species of expression vector for examination. Applicants hereby select avipox with traverse and reserve their right to consideration of additional species as appropriate during prosecution. Claims specifically referring to avipox are original claims 4, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29, 34 and new claims 47, 52, 57, and 62. Applicants respectfully disagree that a search including additional species would constitute a serious burden on the Examiner as all of the claims relating to these various species of expression vector are dependent upon claims relating back to SEQ ID NO:1. Applicants therefore request that this election requirement be withdrawn.

CONCLUSIONS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued as soon as possible. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned if it is believed doing so would expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick J. Halloran

Reg. No. 41,053

Date: Tuesday, May 30, 2006

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